

Appl. No. 10/731,078  
Amdt. dated September 7, 2004  
Reply to Office action of June 4, 2004

### REMARKS

In the Office Action of June 4, 2004, claims 1-3, 8, 9, 14, 15 and 21-25 were rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. Applicant submits terminal disclaimers with respect to US Patents 6,212,119, 6,661,727 and 6,456,552, herewith. Applicant submits that these terminal disclaimers overcome the double patenting rejections.

Claims 1-3 and 21-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,463,340 (Takabatake). Claims 1-3 and 21-25 are canceled with this Amendment.

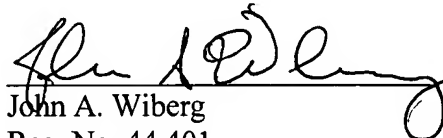
Claims 26-29 were not rejected in the Office Action of June 4, 2004, but they were not specifically indicated as allowed. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 26-29 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant requests allowance of claims 8, 9, 14, 15 and 26-29.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional required fees or credit any overpayment by this submission to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Date: September 7, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



John A. Wiberg  
Reg. No. 44,401  
Attorney for applicant

McANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.  
500 W. Madison, Suite 3400  
Chicago, IL 60661  
Telephone: (312) 775-8000